

What is Claimed is:

1. A lamp shade for moving between a collapsed position and an extended position, comprising:
 - an upper ring;
 - a ring assembly;
 - a shade cover disposed between the upper ring and the ring assembly; and
 - a support comprising a shaft and a pair of curved cross-members, wherein in the extended position, the support engages the upper ring and the ring assembly in an interference fit, stretching the shade cover taut.
2. The lamp shade of claim 1 wherein the second ring comprises an inner ring and an outer ring connected together to define a groove for receiving one of the cross-members.
3. The lamp shade of claim 2 wherein the inner ring is not in the same plane as the outer ring.
4. The lamp shade of claim 1 further comprising an attachment means for attaching the lamp shade to a lamp.
5. The lamp shade of claim 1 wherein the support has a pair of shafts extending between the cross-members.
6. The lamp shade of claim 1 wherein the first cross-member forms a curve with substantially the same radius of curvature as the upper ring.
7. The lamp shade of claim 1 wherein the second cross-member forms a curve with substantially the same radius of curvature as the lower ring assembly.
8. The lamp shade of claim 1 wherein the shaft is curved.

9. The lamp shade of claim 1 wherein the shaft is straight.
10. A lamp shade for moving between a collapsed position and an extended position, comprising:
 - an upper ring;
 - a ring assembly comprising an inner ring and an outer ring connected together to define a groove;
 - a shade cover disposed between the upper ring and the ring assembly; and
 - a support comprising a shaft and a pair of curved cross-members, wherein in the extended position, the support engages the upper ring and the groove defined by the ring assembly in an interference fit, stretching the shade cover taut.
11. The lamp shade of claim 10 wherein the inner ring is not in the same plane as the outer ring.
12. The lamp shade of claim 10 further comprising an attachment means for attaching the lamp shade to a lamp.
13. The lamp shade of claim 10 wherein the support has a pair of shafts extending between the cross-members.
14. The lamp shade of claim 10 wherein the first cross-member forms a curve with substantially the same radius of curvature as the upper ring.
15. The lamp shade of claim 10 wherein the second cross-member forms a curve with substantially the same radius of curvature as the lower ring assembly.
16. The lamp shade of claim 10 wherein the shaft is curved.
17. The lamp shade of claim 10 wherein the shaft is straight.

18. A method for extending a collapsible lamp having a shade cover disposed between an upper ring and a ring assembly, comprising:

providing a support comprising a shaft and a pair of curved cross-members;

engaging the ring assembly with the support;

rotating the support until it engages the upper ring, thereby stretching the shade cover taut; and

retaining the support between the upper ring and the ring assembly in an interference fit.

19. A support for a collapsible lamp having a shade cover disposed between an upper ring and a ring assembly, comprising:

a shaft;

a pair of curved cross-members attached to the shaft, wherein in an extended position of the lampshade, the support engages the upper ring and the ring assembly in an interference fit, stretching the shade cover taut.

20. The support of claim 19 further comprising a second shaft extending between the cross-members.

21. The support of claim 19 wherein the first cross-member forms a curve with substantially the same radius of curvature as the upper ring.

22. The support of claim 19 wherein the second cross-member forms a curve with substantially the same radius of curvature as the lower ring assembly.

23. The support of claim 19 wherein the shaft is curved.

24. The support of claim 19 wherein the shaft is straight.

25. A ring assembly for a collapsible lamp having a shade cover disposed between an upper ring and the ring assembly, comprising:

an inner ring and an outer ring connected together to define a groove for receiving a support to engage the upper ring and the ring assembly in an interference fit to stretch the shade cover taut.

26. The ring assembly of claim 25 wherein the inner ring is not in the same plane as the outer ring.

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